1. Culture is the shared set of beliefs, values, behaviours, customs and artifacts, that defines a group or society. It shapes how people perceived the world, interact and express their identity. The concept evolves over time through social interactions and external influences.

2. The official and unofficial anthems are: The National Anthem: “God Save The Queen”; The English Anthem: “Land of Hope and Glory”; Anthems of Scotland: “Flowers of Scotland” and “Scotland the Brave”; Welsh Anthem: “Land of My Fathers”; and Anthem of Northern Ireland: “Londonderry Air” (Dam my Boy)

3. 1606- The first Union Flag- created to symbolize the union of England and Scotland, under one sovereign.
   1801: The present Union Flag- updated to include Ireland after the Act of Union.
   Wales: Excluded, as it was already united with England as a principality in 1606.

4. The symbols are: The English Lion (representing England); The Unicorn of Scotland, the mottos: “ Dien et nom droit” (represents the monarchy’s right to rule) and the motto of the Order of the Garder; and the shiel elements: three lions passant (England); lion rampant (Scotland); harp (Irland); Wales is not represented directly but acknowledge by the title “ Prince of Wales”

5. They play central roles because they are symbols of beliefs, values, rituals and historical events, therefore they represent British Culture and Identity throughout the years. Music: bagpipes, choirs, Caribbean music, classical performances; Flowers/Plants: Mistletoe, May Day Flowers, Holy and Ivy and Poppies; Food: Pancakes, Christmas Dinner, Hot Cross Buns and Hagis.

6. 1- The imperial conference 1926: Balfour Declaration- Recognized dominations as autonomous and equal under the Crown; The Imperial Conference 1930: Established legislative equality mong self-governing dominations and the UK; London Declaration 1949: Renamed as The Commonwealth of Nations, promoting voluntary and equal partnership.

7. The English language developed in four main stages: Old English (450-1100): Germanic roots, influenced by Norse and Latin; Middle English (1100-1500):

Anglo-Norman mix post 1066; Early Modern English (1500-1800): Renaissance, printing press, and Shakespeare; Moden English (1800-Present): Industrial Revolution, global and ongoing expansion.

8. The printing standardized English spelling and grammar, popularized the London dialect, increased literacy and enriched the language with new words through accessible literature and dictionaries.

Group 2

1. The concept of national identity in Britain is closely tied to the evolving notion of "Britishness," which has been shaped by cultural, historical, and social influences over time. It reflects the values, traditions, and societal norms that define what it means to be British, adapting as society encounters internal changes and external influences. The concept of "Britishness" intertwines cultural traits, historical values, and social traditions. Resilience is symbolized by stoicism, as seen in the "Keep Calm and Carry On" motto. The class system, democracy, and meritocracy continue to shape interactions. Core values like the rule of law, personal freedom, and tolerance underpin identity, alongside traditions like pub culture and iconic cuisine. Globalization and migration add diversity while preserving heritage, with historical narratives maintaining national pride. This balance of tradition and adaptation defines "Britishness" as a dynamic and evolving identity. In essence, "Britishness" represents a blend of enduring traditions and adaptability to changing times. Understanding this evolving identity is crucial to appreciating how Britain's past and present coexist, highlighting the resilience and inclusivity that continue to shape the nation.

2. Non-verbal communication is a critical aspect of cultural interaction, with elements like **prosodics**, **proxemics**, and **kinesics** varying significantly across cultures. These differences shape how people convey emotions, establish relationships, and navigate social norms, often without words. Understanding these variations is essential for successful cross-cultural communication, avoiding misunderstandings, and fostering mutual respect.
   Non-verbal communication, including **prosodics**, **proxemics**, and **kinesics**, varies widely across cultures:
   Prosodics: Elements such as **pitch**, **loudness**, **rhythm**, and **resonance** differ in meaning across cultures. For instance, speech pitch or rhythm in one culture may indicate respect, while in another, it could signal disinterest or rudeness.
   Proxemics: Cultural norms around **personal space** vary significantly. In Arab cultures, close proximity during conversations is typical, reflecting warmth and

engagement, while in Japanese culture, maintaining distance shows respect and comfort.

Kinesics (Gestures and Body Language):**Eye contact** is interpreted differently: In Western cultures like the UK and the US, moderate eye contact reflects attentiveness.In Japan, direct eye contact may be seen as aggressive or uncomfortable.

Gestures carry unique meanings: A thumbs-up may mean approval in one culture but be offensive in another. Understanding these nuances prevents misinterpretation, builds rapport, and ensures effective communication in multicultural settings.

Mastering non-verbal communication across cultures is vital for bridging cultural gaps and fostering meaningful connections. By appreciating differences in gestures, space, and vocal elements, individuals can avoid unintended offense, demonstrate respect, and create harmonious relationships, making non-verbal understanding a cornerstone of global interaction.

3. Britain boasts a rich sporting culture that reflects its history, values, and evolving societal trends. From globally celebrated sports like football and cricket to niche activities such as polo, sports in Britain unite communities and foster national pride. Over time, shifts in ethics and preferences have influenced the rise, decline, or banning of certain sports.

Popular Sports

- **Football**: Britain's favorite sport, with globally renowned clubs.
- **Rugby**: Rugby Union and League are iconic, with major tournaments like the Six Nations.
- **Cricket**: A historic sport, with events like The Ashes and T20 leagues.
- **Tennis**: Wimbledon highlights Britain's global tennis prestige.
- **Horse Racing**: Events like the Grand National showcase equestrian traditions.
- **Polo**: A niche, elite sport symbolizing status and tradition.

Declining and Banned Sports

- **Bear-baiting, Cockfighting, and Fox Hunting**: Banned for animal cruelty.
- **Lacrosse**: Declined due to competition from more popular sports.

Reasons for Decline

- **Ethics**: Bans on cruel sports reflect evolving values.
- **Modern Preferences**: Globalized, fast-paced sports dominate.
- **Commercialization**: Traditional games lack mass appeal.

Britain's sporting culture balances tradition and change. While football, rugby, and cricket thrive, ethical and modern shifts have shaped the decline of others, ensuring a dynamic and inclusive legacy.

4. The festivals celebrated across Britain showcase the nation’s rich cultural history and its evolving diversity. These events, rooted in ancient traditions, religious practices, and modern multicultural influences, provide a window into the values, beliefs, and creative expressions that shape British identity. From centuries-old customs to contemporary multicultural celebrations, British festivals embody the historical and cultural tapestry of the country.

   Key Festivals and Their Customs

   Easter

   Easter, deeply rooted in Christian traditions, commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It reflects Britain’s Christian heritage and includes customs like church services, Easter egg hunts, and the sharing of hot cross buns. These traditions blend religious significance with symbolic representations of spring and renewal.

   Bonfire Night

   Bonfire Night, or Guy Fawkes Night, recalls the failed Gunpowder Plot of 1605, an event tied to Britain's political and religious history. Celebrated on November 5th, it features fireworks, bonfires, and the burning of effigies of Guy Fawkes, symbolizing national resilience and the triumph of order over rebellion.

   Diwali

   The Hindu festival of lights, Diwali, reflects Britain’s multiculturalism and the contributions of South Asian communities. Marking the victory of light over darkness and good over evil, it involves decorating homes with lamps, feasting, and cultural events that celebrate shared values of hope and prosperity.

   St. Patrick's Day

   Though originally an Irish celebration, St. Patrick's Day is widely observed in Britain, particularly in cities with strong Irish communities. Parades, music, and the wearing of green symbolize pride in Irish heritage and the enduring connection between Britain and Ireland.

   Notting Hill Carnival

   The Notting Hill Carnival, rooted in Caribbean culture, is a vibrant celebration of diversity and creativity. Held annually in London, it features colorful parades, music, and dance, reflecting the influence of Afro-Caribbean communities and promoting cultural inclusion.British festivals serve as a mirror of the nation's rich and diverse heritage. Whether through ancient customs like Easter and Bonfire Night or the multicultural vibrancy of Diwali and Notting Hill Carnival, these celebrations highlight the interplay of tradition, history, and modern cultural influences. By honoring its past and embracing diversity, Britain’s festivals offer a dynamic portrait of its evolving identity and unity in diversity.

5. Ethnic diversity has played a pivotal role in shaping Britain’s identity, with significant migration waves influencing the nation’s culture and social fabric. From the Windrush Generation to South Asian migration, these movements have

left a lasting impact on how identity and belonging are perceived today.The Windrush Generation's arrival in 1948 symbolized post-war migration, bringing Caribbean culture to Britain and fostering events like the Notting Hill Carnival as a response to racial tensions. Similarly, South Asian migrants, particularly between 1947 and 1975, enriched British society through vibrant communities and cultural contributions, celebrated in media like *Goodness Gracious Me*. Early perceptions of immigrants often involved resistance and stereotypes, which persist in contemporary debates. Changes in ethnic composition, marked by a decline in "White British" identification, highlight the long-term influence of migration. These shifts have promoted multiculturalism, with increased mixed-race identities redefining Britishness. The historical and contemporary narratives of migration underline the enduring importance of diversity in shaping Britain. While challenges like racism and inequality remain, the cultural contributions of early migrants continue to foster a shared sense of identity and belonging, offering valuable lessons for building a more inclusive future.

6. The English language, now one of the most widely spoken in the world, has undergone a remarkable journey of transformation. From its Germanic roots in the 5th century to its status as a global lingua franca, English reflects the complex tapestry of historical events, cultural exchanges, and linguistic innovation. Influenced by invasions, religious shifts, technological advancements, and globalization, each stage of its development tells the story of a language that has continuously adapted to the needs of its speakers. This exploration traces the evolution of English from Old English to Modern English, highlighting key linguistic changes and historical milestones with examples of literary works that embody each era. The evolution of the English language showcases its resilience and adaptability through centuries of change. Each historical event, from the Anglo-Saxon settlement to the Digital Age, has left an indelible mark on its structure and vocabulary. Iconic works such as *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, and Shakespeare's plays not only illustrate these linguistic shifts but also provide a cultural snapshot of their respective periods. Today, English continues to grow, shaped by global interactions and technological innovations, ensuring its place as a dynamic and evolving medium of communication. The story of English is a testament to the power of language as both a preserver of history and a tool for future expression.